



State of Arizona

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Governor Jan Brewer and Corrections Director Charles Ryan Commemorate National Crime Victims' Rights Week

More than \$36,000 Raised for Victims' Rights Organizations

PHOENIX – Governor Jan Brewer and Arizona Department of Corrections Director Charles Ryan today joined together to recognize National Crime Victims' Rights Week to respect victims of crime and their families.

"National Crime Victims' Rights Week challenges all of us to ask what justice means, and how we can help restore victims as they move toward healing their physical and emotional wounds," said Governor Brewer. "I'm proud that we have dedicated state employees and volunteers helping to ease the pain victims and survivors endure."

"Holding offenders accountable is one of the top priorities of the Arizona Department of Corrections," said Director Ryan. "Giving back to crime victims is an important step offenders can take towards rejoining the community as responsible citizens."

The Arizona Department of Corrections (ADC) provides victim-focused and victim-friendly services to crime victims and survivors, and Restorative Justice Opportunities for offenders to be involved in the victim-focused activities that will help them understand the impact of their criminal conduct on crime victims. The office also provides victim services to Department of Correction's staff who are victims of crime. Between June 1, 2009 through March 2010, the ADC Office of Victim Services has provided services to 5,716 victims throughout Arizona.

A total of \$36,457 was donated to 17 victim rights' organizations that aid victims after they have been traumatized by crime. The money was raised by Arizona Department of Corrections inmates and is being distributed as part of the National Crime Victims' Rights Week.

Victims of crime around the state rely on the efforts of these organizations while dealing with the effects of crime. This year's recipients of funds include the New Life Center, The Phoenix Crisis Nursery, Amberly's Place, Yuma Safe House, Community Alliance Against Family Abuse, and Homicide Survivors.

The theme for this year is "Fairness, Dignity, and Respect," reminding everyone that victims of crime deserve to be treated accordingly throughout the criminal justice system.

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